

# THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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## GENERAL ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION, 1843.

### SLAVERY IN THE SPANISH COLONIES.

THE following answers to a series of questions forwarded to the Havana by the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, for the purpose of eliciting information in reference to Spanish slavery, were received from a gentleman residing in that city, largely interested, by inheritance, in slave property, but who is anxious, nevertheless, for the abolition of the system. Other answers, received from other parties, more elaborate in their details, are in possession of the Committee, as part of the records of the late Convention; but these are selected for publication in the *Reporter*, as being equally instructive and curious, emanating, as they do, from the pen of a Cuban slaveholder:—

1. What is the estimated number of slaves in the island of Cuba?

It is generally believed that there are from 500,000 to 600,000 slaves in the island of Cuba.

2. What is the annual decrease by deaths over births?

The annual decrease by deaths over births, among the slave population in Cuba, is, among the predial slaves, 10 to 12 per cent., and among the non-predial slaves, 4 to 6 per cent. Among the free coloured population the births exceed the deaths 5 to 6 per cent.

3. What is the price of Bozal and Creole negroes respectively?

Under equal circumstances as regards age, size, strength, and appearance, the Creole field negro is worth from 15 to 25 per cent. more than the Bozal.

4. Have the slaves the power of self-emancipation?

The slave can oblige the master to admit the price of his freedom; but it rarely happens that the master refuses to do so. Public opinion favours the slave in this particular case.

Few or none of the predial slaves ever succeed in emancipating themselves, but many of the non-predial slaves are emancipated every year through their own personal industry.

5. Are the births few or many among the slaves, as compared with the free black and coloured population?

Such coloured children as are born of free parents are generally successfully reared, but those born in the country on the different plantations almost always perish in their infancy from neglect and other inhuman causes. Among the children of the non-predial slaves the mortality is not so great.

6. What is the number of hours the slaves are ordinarily engaged in field labour, and in the manufacture of sugar?—What time are they allowed for refreshment and repose?—Is the rest of the sabbath secured to them?

The number of hours that slaves are ordinarily engaged in field labour is from the first dawn of day (4, A.M.) till 10, P.M. They are allowed an hour to dine at noon, which is their only respite from hard labour. Their breakfast they cook over night, and carry it with them to the field in the morning, where they labour and eat, and eat and labour, as opportunity presents itself. But in crop time, or during the manufacture of sugar, which lasts five to six months of the year, their only interval of rest is four hours' sleep at night, and the time necessary for gulping their scanty allowance of food.

7. What is the nature of the punishments inflicted on the slaves to coerce labour, and enforce obedience?

The punishments inflicted on slaves generally consist of three to twenty-five stripes of a platted raw bull-hide, (*trenza de cuero crudo de vaca*), tied at one extremity to a heavy thick stick, (*garrote*.) The victim is sometimes placed lying flat on his stomach, (*boca-abajo*), and four persons hold on to his feet and hands, while the scourge is applied to his naked posteriors. At other times he is tied up with his hands extended above his head; but the severest of all ordinary punishments inflicted on the poor slave is to be put down, with a stick passed behind his knees, to which the hands are secured in such a way that the knees are brought up to his chin; and in this dreadful position (which is called *meterle la vara*) he receives from three to twenty-five lashes, or as many more as an inhuman master may think fit to inflict. In every case but little skin is left after the punishment is over.

To coerce labour these punishments are not frequent; but for disobedience or insolence they are always resorted to.

8. What amount of food are they allowed daily or weekly for their sustenance, and of what kind?

Their daily food consists of five to eight ounces of jerked beef, (*tasajo*), brought from Buenos Ayres, and a small quantity of sweet potatoes, (*muniatos*), Indian corn meal, (*harina de mair*), or plantains, (*platanos*), as a substitute for bread; and on many plantations it is given to them in a raw state.

On some estates (*quintas*) near to the towns, where the masters themselves reside, the slaves generally fare better.

9. What shelter is provided for them? Are they allowed their liberty at the close of their daily labour, or are they confined in barracoons during the night?

Their shelter on the best provided plantations, which are but few, is a sort of barracoon, more or less filthy, with apartments for the different sexes and for married couples: but in general these unfortunate beings are left to put up for themselves, during their hours of rest and on Sundays, huts of the most miserable description, made of the leaves of the native palm-tree, (*choras de guano*), of three to four varas wide, four to five varas long, and one and a half to two varas high, with one extremity of the roof resting on the ground. Their beds are either the ground or hard boards. 100 yards English measure are 108 varas Spanish.

10. What provision is made for them in case of sickness or infirmity, or old age?

A person residing in England, who has never visited the Spanish West Indies, cannot possibly form any idea of the practices which have originated these questions. He cannot conceive a clear or just idea of things in these countries, because words cannot convey to his mind the extent of their reality and variety.

The people of England are told that on these great sugar plantations there are infirmaries, medicine chests, physicians appointed to attend, nurses, sheets, blankets, and even pillows laid on hard boards for the accommodation and relief of the sick; and all by order of the owners of these plantations. It is in vain, however, to say that the sick slaves are attended to, and fed with chicken broth and other wholesome aliment; because, although the owner may be kind and humane, if he does not live on the plantation it is all in vain; his orders are never obeyed, his intentions are ever fruitless. There is the infirmary, the medicine-chest, the physician when called, the nurse, the sheets, the blankets, and even the pillows and hard boards; but the unfortunate slaves benefit nothing from all these. Go into one of the infirmaries, examine the objects which present themselves to your view, and there see the horrors and misery attendant on slavery. There is nothing like unto this in all England. To believe it, it must be seen.

On many of the plantations there is no infirmary, nor is there a room which could serve as a substitute for one. Nor is there any thing else for the relief of poor suffering humanity.

If the proprietor of a sugar plantation should be a charitable, humane person, residing on the property, then the poor slave wants for nothing that charity and humanity can procure. But in order to judge of the fate of the sick and infirm predial slaves of the island of Cuba, let it be asked if the owner is a humane and charitable man, and if he resides on the estate; if the answer is in the affirmative, then all is well; but if in the negative, as is most frequently the case, then every thing goes wrong, the plantation is a perfect hell on earth for the poor slave.

11. What is their moral condition? Are they initiated into the Roman Catholic church by baptism? If allowed to be married, are they valid in law, or can their masters separate them by sale or otherwise, at their will and pleasure?

In general the moral condition of the predial slaves in Cuba; particularly on the sugar plantations, is worse, perhaps, than it could be in Africa. On no sugar plantation or coffee estate do they receive the least moral or religious instruction. The greater part of them never see the parish church but once in their whole lifetime, and that is when they are sent there by their masters to be baptized; a ceremony which is only gone through with because the certificate of baptism given by the curate of the parish serves for a title-deed (*titulo de propiedad*) in the civil courts of the island.

There are but very few proprietors who care whether their slaves marry or live in a state of concubinage, as is most frequently the case. There are but few plantations, however distant from the parish, which have a place allotted for prayer, as in former days, where a priest or clergyman may perform divine service, and congregate the slaves, in order to give them some idea of religion, and teach them some of the precepts of morality. There is scarcely a negro on these plantations who has the most distant idea of Christianity. But as regards this fact, their masters cannot teach them what they are ignorant of themselves.

In consequence of the introduction into the island of Cuba of the irreligious doctrines of the French during the last century, and of the vast numbers of emigrants from France and St. Domingo, who inundated the island between 1793 and 1806, all of whom disseminated among the people, by means of discourses, songs, and books, their anti-Christian doctrines, added to the immoral example handed down from the throne of Spain, from *Maria Luisa* and her favourite *Godoy el Principe de la Paz*, the white inhabitants scarcely retain a vestige of Christianity, either in their hearts,



their heads, or their manners. Even the clergy, conventual as well as secular, have fallen into this sink of social iniquity.

A practical paganism commenced from those days to unfurl its standard where before existed the spirit of truth, and evangelical charity towards the slaves.

No one prevents his slave from being married according to the rites of the Catholic church, and their marriages are considered valid. There is, however, no law which prevents the master from separating the members of one family, either by sale or donation; and these separations are practised daily by the slave-holders with the most absolute indifference. Many a time have I witnessed with feelings of horror the anguish and heart-rending cries of the mother whose child had been sold far away in another part of the country, and of the wife who was torn from the embrace of a kind husband, to satisfy either the cupidity or the revenge of a cruel master.

12. Is the power of the master over the person of his slave restricted by law?—if so, to what extent, and for what crimes committed against the master is the slave punishable?

There is no law which protects the slave against the cruelty of the master. The code of Spanish laws for the government of the Indies does not touch on the subject either directly or indirectly, and the poor slave is dependent on the mercy of the judge for any protection he may receive.

It is of the greatest importance that it should be known, publicly, that the government of Cuba has never once done anything in favour of the slaves. Examine the code of laws of the Indies (*Código de leyes de Indias*.) Examine the four volumes of "*La Legislatura de ultra-marina*," published in this city by Don José María Zamora, and it will be seen that not a word is said on the subject of slaves, except in what has relation to the Fiscal department, and to public security; and then it is only to oppress and humble the man of colour.

If there is anything existing in Spanish codes against slavery or in favour of humanity, it is to be found in *Las Siete Partidas de Don Alonso el Sabio*. Once, and only once, the legislator thought of ameliorating the condition of the slaves, when, in the year 1789, a royal order (Real Cédula) was published, containing minute instructions relative to the religious education, the food, the labour, the treatment, and the marriages of slaves; but, says Zamora, "*como la aplicacion practica de alguno de sus pormenores podia ofrecer inconvenientes, se suplicó su suspension, y desde entonces esta suspenso.*" "As the practical application of some of its parts might have caused inconveniences, it was petitioned that they should be suspended, and suspended they have been ever since."

And although General Valdez has published with every solemnity, on the 14th day of November, 1842, a law relative to the partial amelioration of the condition of the slaves, he has at the same time accompanied it with a circular addressed to the local authorities (Capitanes de Partido) of the island, by which these laws are nullified. And this he has done at the express request of a large number of slave-holders.

13. Are free labourers employed in Cuba in the cultivation of sugar and coffee?—to what extent?—what are the wages paid them by the day or by the task?—and what proportion does the value of slave-labour bear to free?

On some sugar plantations, free labourers are occasionally hired; but the preference is always given to slaves, whether belonging to the plantation or hired from the neighbours, because to these the lash is as liberally applied as to the others.

Such free labourers as are occasionally hired on sugar plantations receive a salary of 14 dollars per month and their food, and a few instances have been known of 17 dollars having been paid. But free men, generally, will not work on sugar plantations during the time of the manufacture of sugar; they consider the labour too severe. Free labourers, with some few exceptions, are all white men, and they will not work in conjunction with the slaves.

14. What would be the effect of a reduction of the differential duties between British plantation and Cuba sugars, so as to allow them to come into competition with each other in the British market? Would it tend to consolidate and extend the system of slavery in Cuba, and to give an additional stimulus to the slave-trade, or otherwise? State the grounds of opinion in either case?

The system of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico would undoubtedly receive a new stimulus, if there should be a reduction of the differential duties on the sugars of these islands, so as to admit of their coming into competition with British colonial sugars in the English market.

The sugars of Cuba are of a superior quality to that of the British colonies, particularly for the refineries. The yellows (quebrados) are equal to a second quality of white sugar, and for common use would, no doubt, be consumed in large quantities in Great Britain. And in proportion to the profits which would result from the increased sale of this staple, the value of all the means required for producing it would be enhanced. And as negro slaves is one of the principal means required for the manufacture of sugar, it is evident that their value would be augmented; that the cupidity of new adventurers would receive a fresh stimulus for engaging in the slave-trade; and that the system of slavery would become more and more consolidated.

What is the reason that Bozal negroes are not worth as much now as they were, for instance, in 1836 and 1837? Because our produce is not worth so much now as it was in those years. Why

are there but very few persons engaged in founding new sugar plantations, as was so frequent in those years, and subsequent thereto? Because such establishments no longer yield the immense profits they did then. And as regards coffee plantations, this fact is still more observable.

The demand for Bozal negroes is not now so great as it was in former years, for the reasons already stated; consequently, if the cause of the decreased demand be removed, the effects would be to produce a reaction in the sordid minds of the people of Cuba and Porto Rico, and bring forward a set of new contraband traders, who would risk every danger for the sake of gain.

This is not to suppose a mere possibility, but it is to state the inevitable effects which a reduction of the differential duties on Spanish colonial sugars would produce. Let the sugars, the coffee, the tobacco, and every thing produced by slave labour, be cried down; let them be considered a rank poison; and the consequence would be, that a day would come when slave labour would be looked upon with horror even in Cuba.

Anything that may be done to augment the value of the staple exports of Cuba and Puerto Rico, would be to protect slavery, and would tend to make the people of these islands believe, not only that the system is holy, but that Great Britain is not sincere (an opinion already too prevalent) in the wish she constantly expresses to suppress the slave-trade and abolish slavery.

During the last year, but few negroes have been imported in comparison to the importations of the foregoing years; and notwithstanding a Bozal does not command so great a price now as he did two years ago, the cause of reduction in price of this human merchandise is no other than the decreased price of our sugar and coffee.

Let Great Britain allow the products of Cuba and Puerto Rico to enter into competition on equal terms with those of her own Colonies, on the express condition that they shall be produced by free labour, and then, perhaps, we shall see spring up in Cuba and Puerto Rico a desire to try the experiment of free labour; but this is to suppose that the British Government will be satisfied with certificates to this effect given by her Consular agents in these islands. Cause the labour of slaves to become unprofitable, give it a name that will serve to prove its infamy. Let it become fashionable throughout Great Britain to point the finger of scorn at the slaveholder, and we shall live to see the day when even the people of Cuba shall blush at the imputation, and shall hasten to purify themselves from the disgraceful stigma of *slaveholding*.

In discussing the question of the extinction of slavery in Cuba, our informant is of opinion that if the clergy, both regular and secular, would do their duty, and "treat the people of colour, including the slaves, with the same benevolence with which the whites are treated, and look upon all colours as children of one common Parent,"—if they would diligently attend to "the moral and religious education of the slaves, and that of the free people of colour," then, he thinks, "in a very short space of time slavery might cease without expense, without violence, and without bloodshed;" and that within twenty years, "the black man and the white man would sit side by side in the civil legislative assemblies (Ayuntamientos y Legislatura) of their country, as they now kneel at the foot of the altar to offer up their prayers to one God, the Father of all." Such are the views of our informant; but we would submit to him, and others in Cuba who feel with him, whether the moral and religious training of slaves, whilst held in that condition, is possible. Slavery is a system essentially anti-Christian. It violates not only the spirit, but the precepts of the gospel. It is alike opposed to the natural instincts and the moral sense of mankind. It robs the man not only of the fruits of his labour, but of himself. It debases him to the level of a brute, and punishes him with dreadful severity for revolting against that degradation. You must emancipate before you can educate with any hope of its being a blessing. Never, till that be done, will the other be accomplished. The experiment was tried in the British colonies, and failed. It has been tried for several years past in the French colonies, and has failed. Let the friends, therefore, of emancipation in Cuba, instead of wearying themselves with plans for preparing the slaves for freedom, which never can be realized, boldly advocate the doctrine of immediate and entire emancipation, and they may rest assured that, whenever the glorious day shall arrive, on which liberty shall be proclaimed to all the inhabitants of the land, it will prove, not a day of lamentation and woe, but a day of peace and joy, of boundless thanksgiving and praise.

#### SLAVERY IN THE SPANISH AND DUTCH COLONIES.

The following resolutions were unanimously passed at the late general Anti-Slavery Convention, and are earnestly recommended to the serious consideration of the friends of abolition in Spain and Holland, and their respective colonial dependencies.

##### SPANISH COLONIES.

I. That this Convention has heard with deep sorrow the deplorable situation of six hundred thousand human beings, unjustly held as slaves in the Spanish islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico, of whom upwards of 400,000 are held in bondage, not only in defiance of the laws of God and man, but of the obligations of a treaty purchased at a costly expense to Great Britain.

II. That the Convention has at the same time derived satisfaction from the knowledge that there are a few noble-minded persons in Spain, some of whom are members of the Cortes, who desire the termination of this enormous system of iniquity, and likewise from



the knowledge that the British Government have demanded the restoration to freedom of those who have been introduced in violation of the existing treaties, as well as those who have been rescued from slave vessels.

III. That this Convention earnestly commends to the friends of humanity in Spain the important task of making known to their countrymen without delay, by the press and in the chambers of the Cortes, the dreadful wrongs endured by those who are held as slaves in the Spanish colonies, and the duty of passing an act for their immediate emancipation—an act by which alone the ends of justice and humanity can be satisfied, and sustain alike the honour and truest policy of the Spanish nation.

IV. That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to every member of the Spanish Cortes, and to the known friends of the anti-slavery cause in Spain and in the island of Cuba.

#### DUTCH COLONIES.

I. That this Convention has learned with much satisfaction that there are a large number of persons in Holland who are convinced of the duty of delivering the slaves in the Dutch colonies from the unrighteous bondage in which they are at present held; and that measures have been already adopted to spread a knowledge of this iniquity in that country, as one important means of promoting its termination.

II. That this Convention hereby records its gratitude to those who have thus laboured, and earnestly recommends to all the friends of the slave in Holland, whether members of the legislature, or in more private stations, to omit no means of promoting, to the extent of their power, the immediate and entire abolition of slavery in the Dutch East and West Indies; a measure which, in the opinion of this Convention, is imperatively required to satisfy the demands of justice and humanity, to remove from the nation a deep dishonour and crime, and to advance the interests of Christianity in regions extensively involved in pagan ignorance, and exposed to the no less deplorable influence of a detestable oppression practised by nominal professors of the Christian faith.

III. That this Convention trusts that the friends of the anti-slavery cause in Holland will be cheered in their exertions by the success which has crowned the efforts made in the same cause in Great Britain, by which the happiness of nearly 800,000 human beings, formerly plunged in the deepest sufferings, has been secured, and their intellectual, moral, and religious improvement greatly advanced; owing to which, under the Divine blessing, millions of slaves in British India, and tens of thousands in Ceylon, now are, or they trust will shortly be, in the enjoyment of civil rights and their attendant blessings.

#### THE SLAVE-TRADE.

THE following is a *verbatim* copy of the "Act for the more effectual Suppression of the Slave-trade," which received the royal assent on the last day of the late session of Parliament. We give it entire, for the information of our friends in various parts of the world, and trust they will keep a sharp look out, for the purpose of detecting any infraction of its enactments by British subjects residing abroad:—

#### AN ACT FOR THE MORE EFFECTUAL SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

Whereas an Act was passed in the fifth year of the reign of King George the Fourth, intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to the Abolition of the Slave Trade," whereby it is enacted (among other things), that it shall not be lawful (except in such special cases as are hereinafter mentioned) for any person to deal or trade in, purchase, sell, barter, or transfer, or to contract for the dealing or trading in, purchase, sale, barter, or transfer, of slaves or persons intended to be dealt with as slaves; or to carry away or remove, or to contract for the carrying away or removing of slaves or other persons as or in order to their being dealt with as slaves; or to import or bring, or to contract for the importing or bringing, into any place whatsoever, slaves or other persons as or in order to their being dealt with as slaves; or to ship, tranship, embark, receive, detain, or confine on board, or to contract for the shipping, transshipping, embarking, receiving, detaining, or confining on board, of any ship, vessel, or boat, slaves or other persons for the purpose of their being carried away or removed as or in order to their being dealt with as slaves; or to ship, tranship, embark, receive, detain, or confine on board, or to contract for the shipping, transshipping, embarking, receiving, detaining, or confining on board, of any ship, vessel, or boat, slaves or other persons for the purpose of their being imported or brought into any place whatsoever as or in order to their being dealt with as slaves; or to fit out, man, navigate, equip, despatch, use, employ, let, or take to freight or on hire, or to contract for the fitting out, manning, navigating, equipping, despatching, using, employing, letting, or taking to freight or on hire, any ship, vessel, or boat, in order to accomplish any of the objects or the contracts in relation to the objects which objects and contracts have hereinbefore been declared unlawful; or to lend or advance, or become security for the loan or advance, or to contract for the lending or advancing, or becoming security for the loan or advance of money, goods, or effects employed or to be employed in accomplishing any of the objects or the contracts in relation to the objects which objects and contracts have hereinbefore been declared unlawful; or to become guarantee or security, or to contract for the becoming guarantee or security, for agents employed or to be employed in accomplishing any of the objects or the contracts in relation to the objects which objects and contracts have hereinbefore been declared unlawful; or in any other manner to engage or to contract or engage, directly or indirectly, therein as a partner, agent, or otherwise; or to ship, tranship, lade, receive, or put on board, or to contract for the shipping, transshipping, lading, receiving, or putting on board of any ship, vessel, or boat, money, goods, or effects to be employed

in accomplishing any of the objects or the contracts in relation to the objects which objects and contracts have hereinbefore been declared unlawful; or to take the charge or command, or to navigate or enter and embark on board, or to contract for the taking the charge or command or for the navigating or entering and embarking on board, of any ship, vessel, or boat, as captain, master, mate, petty officer, surgeon, supercargo, seaman, marine, or servant, or in any other capacity, knowing that such ship, vessel, or boat is actually employed, or is in the same voyage, or upon the same occasion, in respect of which they shall so take the charge or command, or navigate or enter and embark, or contract so to do as aforesaid, intended to be employed in accomplishing any of the objects or the contracts in relation to the objects which objects and contracts have hereinbefore been declared unlawful; or to insure or to contract for the insuring of any slaves; or any property, or other subject matter engaged or employed or intended to be engaged or employed in accomplishing any of the objects or the contracts in relation to the objects which objects and contracts have hereinbefore been declared unlawful: And whereas it is expedient that from and after the commencement of this Act the provisions of the said Act hereinbefore recited shall be deemed to apply to, and extend to render unlawful, and to prohibit the several acts, matters, and things therein mentioned when committed by British subjects in foreign countries and settlements not belonging to the British crown, in like manner and to all intents and purposes as if the same were done or committed by such persons within the British dominions, colonies, or settlements; and it is expedient that further provisions should be made for the more effectual suppression of the slave-trade, and of certain practices tending to promote and encourage it: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That all the provisions of the said Consolidated Slave-trade Act hereinbefore recited and of this present Act shall, from and after the coming into operation of this Act, be deemed to extend and apply to British subjects wheresoever residing or being, and whether within the dominions of the British crown or of any foreign country; and all the several matters and things prohibited by the said Consolidated Slave-trade Act or by this present Act, when committed by British subjects, whether within the dominions of the British crown or in any foreign country, except only as is hereinafter excepted, shall be deemed and taken to be offences committed against the said several Acts respectively, and shall be dealt with and punished accordingly: Provided, nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall repeal or alter any of the provisions of the said Act.

II. And be it declared and enacted, That all persons holden in servitude as pledges for debt, and commonly called "Pawns," or by whatsoever other name they may be called or known, shall, for the purposes of the said Consolidated Slave-trade Act, and of an Act passed in the third and fourth years of the reign of King William IV., intituled "An Act for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the British Colonies, for promoting the Industry of the manumitted Slaves, and for compensating the Persons hitherto entitled to the Services of such Slaves," and of this present Act, be deemed and construed to be slaves or persons intended to be dealt with as slaves.

III. And whereas it is expedient to make further provision for the trial and punishment of offenders; be it enacted, That all offences against the Consolidated Slave-Trade Act or against this present Act, which shall be committed by British subjects out of this United Kingdom, whether within the dominions of the British crown, or in any Foreign country, or by foreigners within the British dominions, except in places where the British admiral has jurisdiction, may be taken cognizance of, inquired into, tried, and determined according to the provisions of an Act passed in the ninth year of King George the Fourth, intituled "An Act for consolidating and amending the Statutes in England relative to Offences against the Person."

IV. And whereas the provisions heretofore made for the hearing and determining in England of offences committed against the Acts for the Abolition of the Slave-Trade in places out of this United Kingdom have been found ineffectual, by reason of the difficulty of proving in this kingdom matters and things done elsewhere; be it enacted, That in all cases of indictment or information laid or exhibited in the Court of Queen's Bench for misdemeanors or offences committed against the said Acts, or against this present Act in any places out of the United Kingdom, and within any British colony, settlement, plantation, or territory, it shall and may be lawful for Her Majesty's said court, upon motion to be made on behalf of the prosecutor or defendant, to award a writ or writs of mandamus, requiring the chief justice or other chief judicial officer in such colony, settlement, plantation, or territory, who are hereby respectively authorized and required accordingly to hold a court, with all convenient speed, for the examination of witnesses and receiving other proofs concerning the matters charged in such indictments or informations respectively, and in the meantime to cause public notice to be given of the holding of such courts, and summonses to be issued for the attendances of witnesses and of agents and counsel of the parties; and such examination as aforesaid shall be then and there openly and publicly taken in the said court *videlicet*, upon the respective oaths of the persons examined, and be reduced to writing, and be sent to Her Majesty in her Court of Queen's Bench (in manner set forth and prescribed in an Act passed in the thirteenth year of George III., chapter 63, intituled "An Act for establishing certain Regulations for the better Management of the Affairs of the East India Company as well in India as in Europe;") and such depositions, being duly taken and returned according to the true intent and meaning of this Act, shall be allowed and read, and shall be deemed as good and competent evidence as if such witnesses had been present and sworn, and examined *videlicet* at any trial for such misdemeanors and offences as aforesaid in Her Majesty's said Court of Queen's Bench, any law or usage to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

V. Provided always, and be it enacted, That in all the cases in which the holding or taking of slaves shall not be prohibited by this or any other Act of Parliament, it shall be lawful to sell or transfer such slaves, any thing in this or any other Act contained notwithstanding.

VI. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act con-



tained shall be taken to subject to any forfeiture, punishment, or penalty any person for transferring or receiving any share in any joint stock company established before the passing of this Act, in respect of any slave or slaves in the possession of such company before such time, or for selling any slave or slaves which were lawfully in his possession at the time of passing this Act, or which such person shall or may have become possessed of or entitled unto *bona fide* prior to such sale, by inheritance, devise, bequest, marriage, or otherwise by operation of law.

VII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be in force and to have effect from and after the first day of November, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, and not before.

#### ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION, 1843.

Preparing for Publication, under the sanction of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and will be issued as speedily as possible.

**A FULL REPORT** of the PROCEEDINGS of the RECENT ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION; including the Speeches delivered, the Documents presented, and the Resolutions proposed, with the Decisions thereon. In one handsome octavo volume, price 7s. 6d. By J. F. JOHNSON, Short-hand Writer.

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#### INTENDED FOR PUBLICATION.

**HAYDON'S** celebrated PICTURE of the GREAT MEETING of DELEGATES, held in London in June, 1840, for the Abolition of Slavery and the Slave-trade throughout the World, THOMAS CLARKSON, President.

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#### NOTICES.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER is an Evening Paper, published on alternate Wednesdays, and may be had of all Newsvenders throughout the country. Price 4d., or 8s. 8d. per annum.

The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society beg very earnestly and respectfully to call the attention of their friends to the subject of Funds, and to urge upon them the necessity of liberal contributions in aid of the great objects the Society has in view. Subscriptions and Donations to the Society should be forwarded to the Treasurer, (G. W. Alexander, Esq.,) at the Society's Office, 27, New Broad-street, London.

All Communications for the Editor of the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* must be sent to the Office of the Society, as above.

### The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 6, 1843.

WE cursorily referred in the last number of the *Reporter* to the ungracious and uncalled-for attack of the honourable member for Durham, Mr. Bright, on the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society; and now resume the subject for the purpose of explanation and reply.

The opportunity for the attack of the hon. member was afforded by the following remarks of the hon. baronet at the head of Her Majesty's Government, in the late debate on the "Bill for the

more effectual Suppression of the Slave-trade." "Was it right," he asked, "after all the sacrifices they had made and were making, losing their commerce, and not gaining reputation with foreign countries,—was it right that they should connive at the application of British capital to the encouragement of the slave-trade? If they were prepared to sanction the application of British capital to that purpose in foreign countries, it would be better to sanction its employment in British colonies, where it would be subject to public opinion and the control of legislation. If they did so sanction it, they would be exposed to all kinds of reproaches." In further developing his views, the hon. baronet said, "Suppose the legislature were to allow the produce of Cuba and Brazil to be imported according to the views of some gentlemen, would it be tolerated that British capital should be employed in those countries in raising produce by means of slaves, to be imported hither? Would not that cause the total ruin of our colonies? It would be difficult," he added, "to calculate the growth of slavery which would then take place."

The points thus raised by the remarks of the hon. baronet were fairly open to the examination of the hon. member for Durham; and no one could have blamed him for availing himself of the opportunity of showing either their unsoundness or inapplicability to the matter under consideration. Instead, however, of doing this,—instead of marshalling his facts and arraying his arguments, (if indeed the hon. member have either facts or arguments to call to his aid,) he commenced an attack on the Anti-Slavery Committee, the tendency of which was evidently to render it contemptible in the eyes of the House and of the country, and thereby to paralyze its exertions in future in the cause of human freedom and happiness.

The hon. member stated broadly and distinctly that "many provincial associations had condemned their (the Committee's) conduct; and he could assert that, of the religious society (the Friends) to which he himself belonged, and whose labours in the cause of abolition were well known, not only not a numerical majority, but indeed a comparatively small number of them had any sympathy with the unsound and mischievous policy pursued by that Committee." Now we affirm that the hon. member had no just grounds for making either of the above assertions; and had he taken the trouble of informing himself on the points he so very confidently states, he would not have inflicted a useless and mischievous speech on the House of Commons.

The facts of the case are these: Four Anti-slavery Associations only, out of the large number existing in Great Britain and Ireland, have ever intimated their dissent from the views entertained by the Committee on the introduction of the slave-grown produce of Cuba and Brazil into the British markets. One of these, that of Devizes, no longer exists; another, that of Birmingham, has reviewed the subject, and come back to the ground taken by the London Committee. In reference to a third, that of Liverpool, though there was a large majority of its Committee, no doubt, in favour of the view taken by the hon. member, yet several of the minority sent the London Committee letters of protest against the course taken by the majority. And with respect to the fourth, that of Hitchin, it maintains the *status quo*. On the other hand, the course of the Committee was fully approved by many local associations; and not one, with the exception of Devizes, of all that exist, has withdrawn from them its confidence and support. Had the hon. member consulted the roll of delegates, composing the late Anti-Slavery Convention, he would have found how warmly the local associations responded to the call of that body; and we will venture to tell the hon. member that, notwithstanding any difference of opinion which may exist, in certain directions, on the sugar question, the London Committee can fully calculate on the warm and hearty co-operation of the friends of the anti-slavery cause throughout the entire country in forwarding the great objects they have in view.

With respect to the Society of Friends, whose generous zeal and self-denying labours in the cause of African freedom are matters of history, we beg to recommend the attention of the hon. member to the subscription list of the Society in confutation of what we must be permitted to call his very erroneous statement; nor have we any fears for the future, that the efforts of the Committee will not be sustained by those devoted friends of the human race with their accustomed liberality and zeal.

The hon. member for Durham generally prides himself on the fairness of his statements, and the manliness of his attacks. We have disposed of the former; and with respect to the latter, we ask, Where was his manliness when he attacked, in his place in Parliament, a body of men who had no means of defence there,—who, in point of fact, were unrepresented there? We can tell the hon. member, that the surprise excited within the House, by the course which he pursued, has been followed by condemnation without the House; and we venture to add, that if the hon. member be ambitious of a name as a public man, two things are requisite,—first, that the statements contained in his speeches should be accurate; and secondly, that when he ventures an attack on any parties not in the House, it should be marked by fairness, candour, and good taste.

WE have now before us a copy of the "Act for the more effectual Suppression of the Slave-trade," another link in the chain of British legislation for the prevention and punishment of one of the most hideous crimes that ever degraded or afflicted humanity.

It is a well-known fact that British capital to a very large extent



is employed, if not directly, yet indirectly, in aiding and abetting the slave-trade on the coast of Africa, and in those countries, such as the Spanish colonies and Brazil, which are constantly receiving its wretched victims into their territories. To check this growing evil, and to punish the evil-doers, is the design of this act; and most sincerely do we hope it may accomplish the great object for which it has been enacted. But we entertain the strongest doubts upon this point, and believe that the legislature must go much further before it will have perfected its labours in this direction; for so long as slave-holding and slave-hiring are allowed to British subjects in foreign states, so long will attempts be made, and, we fear, successfully made by them, to evade the law.

The bill, as originally brought into Parliament, provided, in great measure, against the evils we dread; but that bill has been so much altered, we should rather say mutilated, in its passage through Parliament, as scarcely to be recognized in its present form. In the first place, the clause which was intended to prevent the holding and hiring of slaves has been abandoned. In the second place, the clause which was designed to prevent British traders on the coast of Africa from aiding the slave-merchants in their detestable traffic, has been given up. In the third place, the clause proposed as a check on joint-stock companies purchasing slaves, or contracting for the purchase of slaves, or persons intended to be dealt with as slaves, and for other important purposes, has been removed. And, in the fourth place, the clause giving power to consular agents to visit the establishments, such as mines or plantations, of British subjects, for the purpose of inspection, the verification of registers, &c., has been struck off. Such are the mutilations. On the other hand, two very objectionable clauses have been added, which go far to neutralize the benefits which might, otherwise, have been expected to have resulted from the measure, imperfect as it is.

Had the act been simply composed of the first four clauses, we should have been satisfied with it for the present, because these clauses provide, first, for the application of the penalties of the 5th Geo. IV., c. 113, commonly called the Consolidated Slave-trade Abolition Act, to British subjects residing in foreign states, for the breach of its enactments; secondly, for extending the definition of the term slave to "all persons holden in servitude as pledges for debt, and commonly called 'Pawns,' or by whatsoever other name they may be called or known;" thirdly, for facilitating the trial of offenders against this act and the act of 5th Geo. 4; and, fourthly, for obtaining evidence from abroad for the conviction of offenders under this law.

But our legislators were not content to leave the matter here. Pressed on all sides, by persons variously interested and implicated in slaveholding, they allowed the provisions of the 5th and 6th clauses to become law, whereby these persons are left at liberty to "sell or transfer" their slave property, legally possessed, at the time the Act comes into operation; and further to allow British subjects, hereafter, to become possessed of slaves by "inheritance, devise, bequest, marriage, or otherwise by operation of law," and to "sell or transfer" such slaves at their pleasure.

Against the principle on which these clauses are based we most earnestly protest. They formed no part of the original bill, but have been foisted in by the representatives of interested parties in the House of Commons, with the consent of the Government. We therefore hold the Government responsible for the frauds to which they may give rise. Nevertheless, we caution British slaveholders in foreign parts from presuming too much on the power these clauses may appear to give them. The question can always be raised, whether they are lawfully seized of slaves in their possession. It is not too much to assert, that in most cases, the greater part of the slaves possessed by British subjects in Brazil and Cuba, and in many cases the whole of them, are unlawfully held in bondage; and that this remark is equally applicable to companies working mines by slaves, as well as to individuals holding slaves for other purposes. We would also caution parties residing in this country to beware of investing their capital in the shares of such companies; for if it should be found that the tenure by which their slaves are held is illegal, then they may sustain loss where they anticipated gain. But we would fain hope that our countrymen, influenced by the highest motives, will brand with the infamy it deserves the detestable practice of slaveholding, wheresoever and by whomsoever it may be practised.

It affords us sincere satisfaction to find that, whilst the British press has been almost silent on the great act of emancipation which has recently become the law of British India, a portion of the French press regard it with an interest in some measure proportionate to its importance. The following is a translation of an extract from a French paper which has been transmitted to us:—

"England has just abolished throughout the wide extent of her dominions in India the system of slavery which prevailed there. By this generous act, which will form one of the most glorious pages in her history, millions of men have been made free. Thus, notwithstanding the difficulties which opposed themselves to its accomplishment, justice has triumphed. The history of negro emancipation had also to contend with difficulties. For a long time the desperate energy of resistance triumphed over the vigour of the attack; but at length the period arrived when the great truths proclaimed by Christianity, pushed to their remote consequences by modern philosophy, overcame every obstacle, and the negro was delivered from his bonds. The wrongs of centuries were redressed, and the act which redressed them should be regarded as the great moral taught by the lessons of history. Injustice, even when it prospers and promises to be eternal in its duration, hides within itself the elements of

destruction. Generations may suffer from its oppressions, but the time of its overthrow will inevitably come.

"The great question of slave emancipation, as far as principle is concerned, has been definitely set at rest. The most determined defenders of colonial interests no longer dream of undertaking the defence of slavery. That which, for three centuries, was merely the bold protest of a few superior men, has, in these days, become an all-pervading idea in society, which demands the attention and action of governments. The field of discussion is now freed from the controversies of political philosophy. Whilst, therefore, it were useless to discuss the theoretic value of this great act of emancipation, the means by which it has been accomplished should be studied. Slave emancipation is an idea of the age, which will soon realize itself in facts. England has taken the lead in this great work, and sooner or later all other countries must follow her noble example."

It is cheering to find that on questions involving the common rights of humanity, the enlightened portion of our neighbours are one with us. Long may they continue to be so.

THE papers from the West Indies by the last mail contain little general news beyond favourable accounts of the plantations in the several islands. In Jamaica, Barbadoes, and Trinidad, the supply of rain, though abundant, had not been unfavourable to vegetation, and the only complaint made is, as usual, of the inadequacy of capital and labour to bring into full development the capabilities of the soil. At Barbadoes, it appears, previous to these rains, the young plants had suffered from the wind and heated atmosphere, and fears were entertained that in some of the country parishes damage would have resulted, had such weather much longer continued. On the average the crops of this island will yield an increase of sugar this year over the last of between 4,000 and 5,000 hogsheads. The agricultural report published in the Trinidad papers refers with satisfaction to the generally healthy appearance of the grounds. There is, it is said, a manifest improvement in every description of field work, and should the planters succeed in enforcing good weeding, their cane pieces will show highly favourable results. The sugar crop had finished, and exceeded by about 3,000 hogsheads that of last year. An immense addition to the usual cultivation is said to have taken place during the present season. The *Rose* had arrived at Trinidad with 96 captured Africans, received on board at St. Helena, and had gone into quarantine for 48 hours previous to landing—an ordeal rendered necessary in ascertaining the freedom of these people from small-pox or other contagious disorders.

In the *Royal (Trinidad) Gazette* is announced the appointment of a Government Commission for the suppression of squatting, and the functions of the persons named to compose this body seem to be the examination of the validity of the claims of any occupant of crown lands who has not obtained his or her grant from Government. All occupiers will have to give full information of title to such lands, and no claim will be received in cases where possession has been taken after the 1st of August, 1838. The decisions of this Commission will, it is stated, end much of the confusion existing relative to the right and title of persons allocating to themselves tracts of land in which they can have no lawful interest. The proceedings of this Commission will be watched with deep interest by the friends of the emancipated classes in this country.

Our esteemed friends, Messrs. Alexander and Wiffen, as will be seen from the following extract of their last letter, are returned to Copenhagen from Stockholm. The particulars of their visit to the latter city we have not yet received. In a short time we hope to lay them before our readers, with other interesting notices of their progress.

"Copenhagen, 8 mo. 17th, 1843.—We have now been busily occupied for a few days in this city in calling upon a considerable number of persons of various classes. We have also had an opportunity of consulting some documents which throw light upon the deplorable consequences of slavery in Danish colonies. I do not think our work here will be finished for some days to come. Our last employment before we leave will probably be to give thee a general statement of the information we have obtained, the steps we have taken during our stay, and our impression concerning the prospects of abolition in the Danish West Indies. Thou wilt be pleased to hear that hitherto we have received as much encouragement in reference to the object of our journey as we could reasonably anticipate."

WE beg to call the special attention of our readers to the case of Pedro de Zulueta, the younger, who stands charged with felony, a true bill having been found against him at the Old Bailey, under the Slave-trade Abolition Act, 5 Geo. 4, of 1824. This being the first case of a British subject having been indicted in this country for slave-trading under this Act, the trial will be regarded with the deepest interest by all the friends of Africa.

WE beg to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement which appears in our paper of this day, of the intended engraving in oil colours of Haydon's picture of the Anti-Slavery Convention of 1840. Among the numerous list of subscribers already reported are those of the Duke and Duchess of Sunderland, the venerable Thomas Clarkson, &c., &c. The style of engraving is exceedingly chaste; and besides the important associations connected with the subject to all who feel an interest in the abolition of slavery, it will be worthy of admittance into the most elegant apartment, while the price brings it within the reach of a very large number of our friends. By the kind permission of Mr. Moxhay, the pro-



prietor of the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, the original picture is placed in that institution. Free tickets of admission may be had at 27, New Broad-street.

### CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1843.

(Before the Recorder.)

#### EXTRAORDINARY AFFAIR.

THE grand jury having, in the course of the day, returned true bills against Pedro de Zulueta, the younger, of the parish of St. Mary-le-Bow, merchant, Thomas Jennings, and Thomas Bernardos, late of the same place, mariners, for felony,

Mr. CLARKSON applied to his lordship under, as he said, circumstances of a rather peculiar character. Two bills had been found against M. de Zulueta for felony and misdemeanor. He was a highly respectable merchant of the city of London, and he was charged with conspiring, with other persons, to fit out a ship for the purpose of trading in slaves. The proceedings before the grand jury were of course entirely *ex parte*, and no application had been made to any magistrate. The first intimation which M. de Zulueta had of the fact was his being taken into custody, and he knew nothing of the nature of the charge beyond what was entered in the police-sheet.

The RECORDER asked, was the defendant present?

Mr. CLARKSON said he was in custody, and was on his way to the court.

The RECORDER asked, what was the application which Mr. Clarkson wished to make?

Mr. CLARKSON said he wanted the defendant to be allowed to give bail.

Sir G. STEPHEN, who, it appeared, was the solicitor for the prosecution, stated that the charge against M. Zulueta was founded upon the act of the 5th of George IV., which declared the offence imputed to the prisoner to be felony. In answer to the court, he added that the charge was framed under that section of the act which rendered the party convicted liable to the penalty of transportation for fourteen years.

The RECORDER said that if the learned counsel intended to enforce his application for bail, he apprehended that it would be incumbent upon him to show more reason for such a course than the mere statement that the party had been taken by surprise.

Mr. CLARKSON trusted that the circumstances he had stated would be considered sufficient by the court. The fact of the defendant being so suddenly arrested and placed in confinement would cause the greatest distress to his family. He was prepared to put in bail to any amount.

The RECORDER inquired if there was any objection to bail being taken?

Sir G. STEPHEN was understood to say, that in consequence of the circumstances of M. Zulueta, there was some doubt whether he ought to be admitted to bail.

Mr. CLARKSON assured the court that M. de Zulueta had not the slightest indisposition to take his trial; but, on the contrary, he had the greatest anxiety to have the matter investigated. His only wish, in applying to be admitted to bail, was to prevent the misery and inconvenience to which his family would be subjected by his being prevented from returning to them. He especially wished to save the anxiety of the female branches.

The RECORDER suggested that the case should be dealt with in the ordinary manner, and that affidavits should be prepared in support of the application.

At this stage of the proceedings the prisoner entered the court, in custody of an officer.

Mr. CLARKSON, after some communication with Sir G. Stephen, addressed the court, and said that he believed no objection would be offered to bail in the sum of 5,000*l*.

The RECORDER said he thought that would be quite sufficient.

Mr. CLARKSON said the defendant would enter into his own recognizance in 3,000*l*., and give two sureties in 1,000*l*. each.

It was then arranged that this amount of bail should be put in upon the indictment for felony; and with regard to that for misdemeanor, the defendant should give his own recognizance in 100*l*., and two sureties in 50*l*. each.

The indictment was then read. It charged the prisoner and the two other persons with having feloniously equipped and employed a certain vessel, called the *Augusta*, for the purpose of trading in slaves. In other counts the parties were charged with equipping the vessel for the purchase of slaves, and for the purpose of purchasing persons to be dealt with as slaves.

M. de ZULUETA pleaded not guilty to both indictments.

He then, in default of two sureties, entered into his own recognizance in 6,000*l*., and one surety in 2,000*l*., to appear when called on.

Thursday, August 25th, 1843.

#### THE CHARGE OF TRADING IN SLAVES.

Mr. CLARKSON applied to their lordships to take the bail for M. de Zulueta, arranged by the Recorder on the previous evening. He explained that only one of the sureties having been present, and the hour too late to obtain the other, M. de Zulueta had been enlarged upon giving his own recognizance in 6,000*l*., and one security in 2,000*l*. He was now in court with Mr. Glyn, the well-known banker, and Mr. Wilcox, who were ready to enter into the sureties of 1,000*l*. each, M. de Zulueta himself being ready to give his personal recognizance in 3,000*l*.

Mr. PAYNE, who was retained for the prosecution, had no objection.

Mr. CLARKSON then applied to have the trial, both for the felony and the misdemeanor, postponed to the next session.

Mr. PAYNE consented.

M. de ZULUETA then entered into the requisite securities.

#### DOMESTIC CIRCLE OF MOHAMMED ALI.

THE following account of Mohammed Ali's domestic circle, taken from Dr. Yates's recent work on "The Modern History and Condition of Egypt," will be read with interest, and not the less so by our readers, as it will furnish them with information

as to the extent, though not altogether as to the nature, of the slavery which prevails there:—

Mohammed Ali, born in 1769, at Cavala, brought with him from his native place one wife, Amina *Kh'anum*; she bore him four children, of whom two—viz., Toussoun Pascha and Ismael, are dead; and two living—viz., Ibrahim Pascha, aged 52 years, and Nazly *Kh'anum*, aged 46, widow of the Defterdar, Mohammed Bey, who has no children. Amina *Kh'anum*, now dead, is described as having been a most amiable woman, to whose good temper and invariable kindness, Mohammed Ali owes much. As the Mohammedan law allows four wives, and numerous concubines, Mohammed Ali, at various periods, married three other wives, now living—viz., 2. Shan Shafa *Kh'anum*, a Georgian slave, who bore him four children, all dead; 3. Nourac *Kh'anum*, also a Georgian, but no children; and 4. Selwy *Kh'alfa Kh'anum*, a Georgian slave, mother of Zenab *Kh'anum*, now 16 years old. Mohammed Ali has several children by Shan Pezent *Kh'alfa*, from Abassa, near Georgia; he is father of Said Bey, now 20 years old; by Manthas *Kh'alfa*, a Russian slave, he has Hussein Bey, 15 years old; by Shan Schacher *Kh'alfa*, a Circassian slave, a boy of 12 years called Aly Bey; by Zeeha *Kh'alfa*, a Georgian, he has Halim Bey, 11 years old; by Zelfha *Kh'alfa*, lately raised to the rank of fourth wife, and who resides at Alexandria, he is the father of Iskanda (Alexander in Turkish), so called from the city of his birth; by a Georgian slave named Zipha *Kh'alfa* he had a son called Mohammed Ali, born in 1836, during his visit to Candia, and he is said to have other slaves pregnant. His harem is arranged on the most magnificent, yet most orderly style; there are between 90 and 100 of the most beautiful slaves to be found in the east, and 12 musicians and 12 dancers, all girls under 15 years of age, who are taught, the former to play on every sort of instrument, and the latter to dress in the costume of every nation, and to dance according to the costume. There are at least 300 females in this building, which adjoins his palace, besides between 40 and 50 eunuchs, and various Arab menial slaves. When he quits the divan, and enters the harem, one of the young slaves with a silver wand is waiting to receive him, and upon his appearance announces his arrival to the assembly. He then marches through a double row to his seat, where he is complimented and fêted. A female secretary, taught to write well and to keep secrets, attends him to write his despatches, and occasionally others read translations of the most remarkable articles from the London and Paris papers. At night, while he sleeps, half of the fair slaves are in continual waiting, and three are stationed at his feet and three at his head, to keep away the mosquitoes and flies. The utmost regularity and order are observed, and punishments, such as flogging, even death by strangulation or drowning, are inflicted, it is said, by the black eunuchs. Curiosity, in looking out of the windows, &c., is one of the greatest offences. His eldest son, Ibrahim Pascha, has two wives in Cairo, but no children by them. By three favourite slaves he has three boys—Achmet Bey, 17 years; Mustapha Bey, 14 years; and Ismael Bey, 13 years old. There are also 50 slaves in his harem.

"Mohammed Ali had 12 brothers and two sisters, all of whom are dead. By one of the latter he has three nephews—viz, 1st, Achmet Pascha, aged 38, who went to Yemen as commander-in-chief; and, 2nd, Ibrahim Pascha, aged 36, lately general of a division in Syria, and who was to go as governor to Yemen when his brother had subjugated it fully; and, 3rd, Hussein Bey, who was placed at the head of the monopoly of spirits. Those three brothers have also children.

"The second son of Mohammed Ali (viz. Toussoun Pascha) left at the time of his death a boy, now 36 years old, named Abbas Pascha, who is also father of several children. The third son, Ismael Pascha, burnt to death some years ago in Sennaar, left a widow, the sister of the Cadi of Cairo, appointed in 1835 by the Porte. A relation of Mohammed Ali, named Toussoun Bey, left two daughters in the harem, besides a third married to the Admiral Osman Nouredin Pascha, who deserted. The son of the master whom Mohammed Ali served when a boy was subsequently married to his daughter, (dead, without children,) and is now known as Moharem Bey, who was made governor of Alexandria.

"It may be a satisfaction to persons who commiserate the fair prisoners of the harem, all of whom value the customs of Europe, to learn that it is a frequent practice to give them as wives to officers, and that many an orison is uttered for that blessing, as they then become important in their husbands' houses."

### Correspondence.

THE perusal of the following communication from our excellent friend and fellow labourer, Lewis Tappan, Esq., of New York, will much gratify our readers. The letter of the venerable John Quincy Adams, to which it refers, we have read with the greatest interest, and much regret that our limited space will not allow of the insertion of so eloquent and powerful a denunciation of American slavery by that patriotic and enlightened statesman.

In our next, we shall endeavour to make room for part of the noble document. In the mean time, we trust our friends will press onwards to the attainment of the great object in view; and be assured, that the sympathies and prayers of all good men will be with them.

TO JOSEPH STURGE, ESQ.

New York, August 14, 1843.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I wrote a few lines to you from Halifax. We got into Massachusetts Bay on the 2nd inst., and were immersed in a heavy fog. After firing guns, a fisherman came to us in a small sail boat, told us where we were, and the proper course to take. The captain of the steam ship invited him on board, but he declined; he offered to pay him, but no; he then inquired, "Shall I throw you a bottle of brandy?" The fisherman trimmed his sail, and, as he glided away, said, "No, I thank you, I do not use the article." The passengers, who were all witnesses to the scene on the upper deck, gave a loud cheer, and clapped their hands. Some of the English passengers said, "We never saw any thing like that." Several of the passengers came up to me, and jocosely remarked, "That man belongs to your society." I mention this for the



amusement and edification of any of our teetotal friends whom you may happen to see.

Soon I had the pleasure to put my feet on my native soil, after twelve nights on board going out, and fourteen returning. After passing a day or two at Brooklyn, I came to my field of labour here. Before I left, however, I rode to Quincy, to call on John Quincy Adams. He had just returned from a visit to Quebec, Niagara, &c.; and both in Canada and in this state received the honours due to his high character and illustrious services. He was gratified to learn, somewhat in detail, the proceedings of the Convention in London—the eulogium of Lord Morpeth on himself—and to receive the *Reporters*, &c., giving an account of the Convention, Mr. Clarkson's letter to him, &c.

I will mention here that I have just read in the *Richmond* (Virginia) *Enquirer*, of the 11th inst., a letter from their correspondent in Hanover, a Virginian probably, who is outrageous on account of the proceedings of the Anti-Slavery Meeting in Exeter Hall, abuses Lord Morpeth, J. Q. Adams, and the others who took part or were favourably noticed, in a violent manner. This letter, published conspicuously in a leading paper in Virginia, gives evidence enough that the Anti-Slavery Convention and Public Meeting, Lord Morpeth's speech, &c., have greatly troubled the slaveholders. About the time I saw it I read a new and very important letter from Mr. Adams, published in the *Boston Courier*, (a copy of which I shall send you,) in which he denounces American slavery in very severe terms. What the Virginians will say when they see this letter of Mr. Adams, I cannot say. He has spoken out a terrible rebuke. I have alluded to Mr. Adams's tour. Every where he was received with very great and unusual marks of public respect. In some places, almost the whole population turned out to greet him. What is more, all political parties united in the testimonials. Mr. Adams remarked, "These things have shown me two things, 1st, that my course in Congress has met the approbation of the PEOPLE; and 2ndly, that anti-slavery principles have pervaded the community to a very great extent."

I find that Lord Morpeth's speech has been published in several of our newspapers; that the doings of the Convention and of the meeting in Exeter Hall have been extensively noticed here; and that the Conventions, &c., have excited considerable attention. I have no doubt that a powerful impulse has been given to the anti-slavery cause by the meetings in London, not only in England, but in this country. Did time permit I could give you many proofs that the cause has advanced in this country even since I left here for London.

The newspapers generally are more ready to publish anti-slavery intelligence than formerly. The *Journal of Commerce* lately published a statement highly encouraging in relation to the workings of emancipation in Jamaica. It was copied into many other newspapers. I may mention another indication, though it be somewhat personal to myself. A few days since I received a letter, signed by six respectable gentlemen, requesting me to address a public meeting in Brooklyn, on the 15th inst., for the gratification of the friends of "Emancipation and Temperance." They wish to hear a statement of the highly important deliberations in the Anti-Slavery Convention, and also something about the progress of temperance in Great Britain. I have agreed to attend the meeting. An incident connected with the proposed meeting will interest you, as "marking progress" in the cause. During the mobs of 1835 I slept one night at Brooklyn, and the mobbites then threatened to pull down the house where I slept. Troops were called out, and there was much excitement. Now, Mr. Hall, who was mayor of Brooklyn at the time, and an excellent officer, told my brother that he was sorry the proposed meeting was not notified to be held in a larger place than "Classical Hall," as it will not hold half the persons who will be desirous of attending. This is a great change. Two of the gentlemen who have signed the letter to me, which they have published in the newspapers, are elders of Dr. H. L. Cox's church, who, though they have been considered abolitionists, have been very dormant in the matter a long time.

The abolitionists, far and near, are very anxious to know the proceedings of the Convention. The address to Christians has been published in some of our religious and anti-slavery newspapers, and will be extensively circulated. It is a capital address.

My visit to England seems almost like a dream: my friends can scarcely imagine I am back again. I am richly repaid for the time and money required to perform such a voyage. The recollections of the many valuable persons with whom I had the pleasure of being acquainted, adds to the value of my existence, and will be food for pleasing and instructive reflection while I have a being. I think better of England in consequence of having had this opportunity of seeing, conversing with, and listening to, some of her best inhabitants. I shall peruse the writings of those whom I have seen and known with new interest. I shall sympathise more than ever with the intelligent, active, and excellent men on the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. \* \* \*

(Signed) LEWIS TAPPAN.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday, August 21st.

SLAVE-TRADE SUPPRESSION BILL.

The house having proceeded to the further consideration of the report on this bill,

Sir T. WILDE brought up certain clauses prepared by himself, in conjunction with the Attorney-General, with a view to meet the objections to some of the provisions of the bill on a former day.

Mr. HAWES said that the bill, with the introduction of these new clauses, would leave the law in a very unsatisfactory state to those who wished for the suppression of slavery, as they considered it as rather conceding something to slavery than restricting it. He confessed that he did not himself understand what the effect of the measure would be, but unless the hon. and learned gentleman could give a distinct assurance that it would not give any advantage to the slave dealer, he thought it would be better to allow further time for the consideration of the subject, and to postpone the bill until next session.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the object was to guard against any

indirect encouragement to the slave-trade, but at the same time to enable British subjects in slave-dealing countries to recover debts due to them by the administration of the law, but not by any private arrangements with respect to slaves.

Mr. FORSTER begged to ask the Attorney-General a question: Whether a British trader or supercargo on [the coast of Africa, who may sell goods to a native trader, or to a Spanish or Portuguese trader on that coast, in exchange for African produce, specie, or bills, will be held responsible under this new act for the use the buyer may afterwards make of those goods, should it appear that he subsequently employed them in the purchase of slaves, in which the seller had no interest?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that without undertaking to give a construction of former acts, he would express his own opinion that the act which the House was now discussing would not have the slightest effect upon transactions of the nature to which the hon. gentleman referred.

Mr. HAWES said he still viewed the measure with great doubt. He feared it would legalize some transactions which, under the present law, were either illegal, or at least doubtful, and he wished to hear from the hon. and learned gentleman whether or not any transactions would be lawful under the new bill, which, under the 5th of George IV., were either illegal or uncertain as to their legality. If the hon. and learned gentleman would not remove his apprehensions on this point, he should take the sense of the House against the bill.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he could not be responsible for the doubts of other persons, but he had no hesitation in declaring his own distinct opinion that there was nothing in this bill which legalized anything that was not legal before.

Mr. FORSTER having defended the pawn system, the report was agreed to, and the bill ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Tuesday, August 22nd.

Sir T. WILDE moved the third reading of this bill.

Mr. HAWES said he still viewed the bill with great doubt, and feared it would give encouragement to a traffic in slaves freed from the restrictions imposed upon it by the 5th of George IV. He would not obstruct its passing, but, with the apprehensions he entertained respecting its operation, he would not accept it on the part of those who had been the uniform and consistent advocates of the abolition of slavery and the slave-trade, and as it was the amendments made in the original bill by the Government, which gave to the measure its present unsatisfactory character, he protested against those amendments, although without the means of giving effect to his protest further than by throwing upon the Government the entire responsibility for the bill which they had thus adopted.

Mr. MILDWAY said, that as he knew that the bill would be injurious to the commerce of this country, he should move that it be read a third time that day three months.

Sir J. RAE REID said he should second the amendment with all his heart, and hoped the government would take time, and reconsider the subject.

Sir THOMAS WILDE contended that sufficient notice had been given of this bill, and therefore it could not be affirmed that the house had been taken by surprise. He did not, he confessed, understand the opposition that was given by those who professed themselves opposed to the slave-trade. The object of the bill was to give effect to the second section of the 5th of George IV., and to extend the operation of the section to British subjects residing in foreign dominions. The main object was to discourage the slave-trade, and not to injure British commerce. The main clause would throw impediments in the way of the slave-trade; the other clauses would not affect prejudicially the trade of the country. The bill did not meddle with the property or interests which were not now legal.

Mr. ESCOTT opposed the bill.

After a few words from Mr. P. BORTHWICK,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in supporting the bill, observed that the bill recognised the great principle that this country would make every sacrifice that it fairly could to put down slavery. The bill, he begged to observe, was not a government bill. (Hear.) It had been introduced into the House of Lords by no member of the government, and having come down there, the government had endeavoured to give it every fair consideration.

Mr. HINDLEY observed that the government ought not to shrink from supporting this bill. He supported the bill, because it was calculated to put down slavery.

Captain BERNAL would wish a more perfect measure than the present. As to the author of it, he thought he had been rather unfairly treated; because, however honourable gentlemen might differ on other points, yet they could not forget that for many years of his life the noble lord had devoted himself to the suppression of slavery.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

## Colonial Intelligence.

BARBADOES.—CROPS.—The weather, since last we wrote under this head, has been most propitious for the agriculturist. More rain has fallen during the few days just past than we have had in the month of July for several years. The crop is almost reaped, and the amount of produce shipped, to the 1st instant, is—18,808 hogsheads, 930 tierces, 602 barrels sugar; 3,210 puncheons, 244 hogsheads, 31 barrels molasses; 275 packages arrowroot; 5 packages ginger; 199 bales cotton; 4,620 gourd aloes. We understand that the probable amount of the sugar crop will be about 30,000 hogsheads. The prospect of fine weather and a good crop for the ensuing year has raised the drooping spirits of our planters.—*West Indian*, July 6th.

TRINIDAD.—CROPS.—The agricultural affairs of Trinidad, like those of Barbadoes, are reported to be in a healthy and flourishing condition. A return had been made to Government of the produce shipped from the 31st of May, 1839, to 1843, and from this return, says the *Port of Spain Gazette*, it appears that there has been a steady increase in the quantity of sugar—the quantity amounting to 8,291 hogsheads, 436



tierces, and 1,724 barrels, in 1839; and in 1843, to 12,649 hogsheads, 769 tierces, and 2,547 barrels, with a due proportion of molasses. In the articles of cocoa and coffee there has not been a similar increase.

**IMMIGRATION.**—The tide of emigration to this colony continues to flow pretty freely. The *Trinidad Standard*, of the 8th June, states that the number of immigrants during the months of April and May amounts to 436 adults and 51 children: of this number 36 only are from Africa. The total number since the commencement of the year is 1,789, to which must be added 195 on the 29th June. These arrived in the barque *Fairy Queen*, from St. Helena, and were sent out by the London Emigration Committee. The vessel it seems has been put under quarantine, as there were nine cases of small pox on board. During the passage eight persons died from this dreadful disease, and one from the measles.

**LIBERATED AFRICANS.**—The barque *Rose* arrived on Friday from St. Helena, after a passage of 31 days, with 96 captured Africans on board, who are quite well. Several cases of sickness had occurred on the voyage, three of which terminated fatally—two from convulsive fits, and one from a bowel complaint. On her arrival she was put in quarantine for forty-eight hours.—*Trinidad Standard*, July 24th.

**BRITISH GUIANA—CROPS.**—The prospect of the crop is favourable. The dry weather has set in unusually early; which, however, is a favourable circumstance, as the crops with us are apt to suffer from too much rain.—*Royal Gazette*, August 3rd.

**IMMIGRATION.**—Immigration has quite ceased, and is no more talked about or heard of. The total number of immigrants who have arrived this year does not amount to a hundred. The Government transport from Sierra Leone is shortly expected; but no very brilliant hopes are entertained of a supply from that quarter.

It is very much to be desired, and there are already some indications, that the necessity of relying upon the present stock of labour will set the wits of our planters to work, and will lead to considerable curtailments of expense, and substitution of machinery for the performance of many of the agricultural operations now carried on, in a very inefficient way, by mere manual labour. This process is observed to be going on to a greater or less extent in all the other West India colonies; and the very peculiar adaptation of our cultivation to improvements of this sort leads us to hope, that we shall not be the last to find some effectual substitute for the inefficient and expensive hoe, which at present is our chief agricultural implement.—*Ibid*.

**PAYMENT OF LABOURERS.**—The *Berbice Gazette* of July 10th contains the advertisement of two execution sales, under orders of stipendiary magistrates, for the payment of wages,—one of 24 hogsheads of sugar, belonging to plantation *Lochaber*, to pay the wages for May and June, amounting in the whole to 1,123 dollars, 67 cents.; and the other of 10 hogsheads of sugar and 48 puncheons of molasses, belonging to plantation *Canefield*, to pay wages to the amount of 1,041 dollars, 8½ cents. It appears from the same paper that the labourers on *Anna Clementia* had obtained a sentence against that property, but no execution was issued, the money having been paid. It is bad policy, to say the least of it, to put the labourers to the trouble of bringing a suit. The promptitude, however, with which the matter is brought to an issue, must tend to re-assure them as to the certainty of payment.

**ST. LUCIA.**—The weather continues generally, throughout the island, most propitious for agricultural purposes; though we regret, however, to find that the quarter of Gros-Ilet has still to complain of not being so fortunate as the other parts of the island; but a few partial showers, quite inadequate for the parched-up state of the land, having yet fallen there; the canes have much suffered, and are consequently very backward for next crop.—*Independent Press*, August 3rd.

**GRENADA—CROPS.**—From the Agricultural Report for June, 1843, we make the following extracts:—"St. David's, June 30th.—The crop just finished is greater than that of last year by one-third, and the sugar fully maintains its character as to quality. Wages are the same as last year; the task-gang labourers, from the settlements on the mountains, receive from one shilling and sixpence per day; but this class of labourers is not on the increase, nor are the labourers on the plantations a whit less scrupulous than before, taking every advantage of the favourable season for their own interest, increasing their corn and yam grounds, and consequently affording less attendance to the cane-fields. The men may be said to work three weeks out of four, the women two weeks out of every three. Disputes between master and servants are rare, and are easily settled by arrangements, but the proportion of labour per day is no larger than before. The average amount of produce, in proportion to labour and cultivation, may be stated at 2,000lbs. of sugar and 70 gallons of molasses per acre, and per head. St. Andrew's, June 30th.—Since our last report of this parish, the weather has been favourable for taking off the crop, which is now nearly completed, and will exceed that of last year by about 200 hogsheads; and from what we have seen on some estates, and heard from others, the sugar appears to be of a better quality. The season at present is favourable for the young sprouts; both plants and ratoons are looking healthy, and in general more forward than at this time last year. Railways are on the increase for carrying the green megass, and we have no doubt they will be generally adopted throughout the island where practicable; disputes between the master and labourer seldom occur; complaints before the magistrates are chiefly petty assaults among the labourers, which are easily settled."—*Grenada Free Press*, July 19th.

**TOBAGO.**—This month has been throughout most propitious for the country. We have had frequent and moderate rains, a powerful sun, with a close and sultry atmosphere—all favourable for vegetation. Those estates which had not quite finished sugar making have had an opportunity of doing so, and it may be said that crop is over. All the outdoor operations peculiar to sugar plantations, at this season, have been prosecuted with diligence this month,—weeding and supplying, establishing a spring plant where that was necessary, and the making and carting of manure. The late plants and ratoons are rather thin, but have made great progress since last report, and are now beginning to close up well.

Earlier descriptions are all strong and thick. Last fall, we had pleasure in beholding the plough in operation on a number of the windward estates, and now learn, that the result is such, as to induce those who have tried it to persevere, and others to follow the example. The advantage of this mode over the old one is evinced by the strength and fine appearance of the cane in those fields where the plough has been employed. The population continue healthy.—*Tobago Chronicle*, July.

**ST. VINCENT.**—A new apparatus has been introduced into this island for crushing canes, from which the greatest benefits are anticipated to arise. Its principle is an ingenious application of Bramah's hydrostatic press to the squeezing of canes, with a contrivance for confining them within the influence of the pressure.—*St. Vincent's Observer*.

## Foreign Intelligence.

**FRENCH COLONIES.—MARTINIQUE.**—The crops are about one-sixth less than they were last year.

**GUADALOUPE.**—The crops are about one-third less than last year. The ruins produced by the late afflicting earthquake were being fast cleared away, and buildings were going on. The attention of the inhabitants for the present is principally turned to re-building their sugar-houses, the works of which they intend to enlarge, and to replace their lost furnaces by much larger ones, it being intended to pay more attention to the growth of the sugar-cane and to the manufacture of that commodity. The "Industriels," a class of persons between the grower and exporter, purchase the cane of the former and sell the produce to the latter, and by this means it is expected, that the exportations will be materially increased.

## Miscellanea.

**COLONIAL PRESS.**—A brief review of the press may not be uninteresting. At present it is conducted by 18 coloured editors; 8 white Creole ditto; 4 Scotch ditto; 2 English ditto; 2 Irish ditto; 1 American ditto;—Total, 35. Of these, ten may be classed as strictly "colonial" in their politics, i. e. evidencing, by their writings, a sole regard to the interests of their constituents, irrespective of local differences or disputes—nine as radicals, dissenting from the politics of their several local governments—seven Conservatives (local)—and the remainder, Nothingarians, or Anythingarians. Such constitute the colonial press.—*Berbice Gazette*, July 27th.

**THE SLAVE-TRADE.**—The *Snake*, 16, when under the command of Commander Milne, in the West Indies, captured the *Araganti* slaver, with upwards of 300 slaves on board. Since the *Araganti* was condemned, circumstances have transpired which, in atrocity, are unparalleled in the annals of even slave-trade crime. It has been known that a slaver, when chased by a cruiser, which she found was coming up with her "hand over hand," has coopered up a slave in a cask, and thrown it overboard, (the head of the slave being the only part visible,) for the purpose of causing her pursuer to heave-to and pick it up, by which she hoped eventually to get beyond her reach. Cruel and atrocious as this is, it is nothing in comparison to the revolting acts practised on board the *Araganti*. It appears she left the coast of Africa with 500 slaves on board, but with no more provisions than were sufficient for her own crew, and a small quantity of rice for the unfortunate slaves. When she was captured, she had only 320 slaves on board, the greater portion of the other 180 having been murdered, cut into pieces, and cooked and served up with a very limited allowance of rice for the sustenance of their late companions in misery and suffering. Incredible as this fact may appear, it is, nevertheless, too true.—*Times*, August 19.

**CAPTURE OF SLAVERS.**—It is not improbable that under the treaties which this country has entered into with the Imaum of Muscat, and other chiefs, the following captures may have been made; but that the captains of the slavers have been executed is altogether improbable. The *Augsburg Gazette* gives the following extract of a letter, dated Cairo, April 21:—"The English have just captured in the Red Sea, near Sanakerg, two slavers, with large cargoes of slaves on board. The captains of these slavers were hung up to the main-yard at once. The two ships were carried into port with the captains still hanging on to the main-yard. The slaves were landed, and immediately set at liberty. This example will intimidate some of the large slave-dealers; but if the English would take the trouble to come here, they would find their hands full of work, and from time to time they might catch a European engaged in this vile traffic."

## DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following contributions have been received during the past month, and are hereby gratefully acknowledged:—

(The special donations towards the expenses of the Anti-Slavery Convention will be acknowledged in the next number of the *Reporter*. Any friend intending to contribute to this fund will please to forward the amount before the 18th inst.)

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